Visit to foreign countries by Scientists, technologists and officials of scientific departments

2231. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have banned visits to foreign countries by Government servants in view of the difficult foreign exchange position;

(b) whether in spite of the ban some officials, Scientists and Technologists have been sent on foreign visits by various scientific departments and Ministries;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) total expenditure incurred and the source of meeting the expenditure;

(e) the number of those who were sponsored on the basis of invitations received from foreign organisations and institutions; and

(f) the number of the invitations received as a result of formal/informal requests by the concerned officers/ invitees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Appointments in violation of CSIR Instructions

2232. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in terms of CSIR instructions dated 30th March, 1990 the recruitment of casual workers/ daily wagers and on contract basis has been banned except in the case of sponsored projects or for an specific time bound work;

(b) whether it is a fact that some appointments have been made in violations of these instructtions since then;

(c) whether Government have taken any action or propose to hold an inquiry to bring to book the officials responsible for these violations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Some appointments were reported to have been made in some of the CSIR Laboratories in violation of these instructions. However, subsequent to a directive from CSIR, all such appointments have been discontinued, except in the case of four persons retained by the Regional Research Laboratory (RRL), Jammu at their Srinagar Branch Office, where due to the prevailing law and order problems and other security risks involved, it has not been possible to make regular appointments.

(c) and (d) The matter with regard to the circumstances leading to such appointments is being examined.

Biotechnology information network

2233. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Biotechnology has launched a scheme of "Biotechnology Information Network" in the country;

(b) if so what is the year-wise and State-wise expenditure so far incurred on the Scheme;

(c) what are the salient features of the Biotechnology Information Network Scheme and what are the terms and conditions for enabling the general researchers to make use of the Scheme;

(d) the number of general researcher who have been benefited so far from the above Scheme;

(e) whether any fee is prescribed for general researchers for the use of the Scheme; and

(f) if so, the year-wise and State-wise money collected from the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Yes Sir. The Biotechnology Information System (BTIS) Scheme was approved by Government of India in 1986 and became operational in stages from 1987 onwards.

(b) Year-wise expenditure details are given in the annexed statement. (*See* below).

(c) The programme was envisaged to provide an informatics based national infrastructure for harnessing the scientific knowledge in various inter-disciplinary areas of Biotechnology and its dissemination to scientists working in several frontier areas at R&D institutions, universities and industry. The network provides a complete information source on genetic material as hard data (e.g., DNA, Protein and Nucleic Acid Sequences, GenBanks, etc.): Soft Information (e.g., Bibliographic references through DIALOG, CD-ROM, etc.); Management Information (e.g., R&D projects, experts etc.). 10 Distributed Information Centres and 16 Sub-Centres have so far been established in 11 states and 2 Union Territories. Computer networking of DICs was done through NICNET. Access to International databases is also possible.

Terms & conditions for use by general Researchers

The use of this national facility is open to the scientific communityy. Scientists can contact the coordinators of the respective Biotechnology Information Centres for their information requirements and registration. Brochures containing information about the computational faclities and databases have been crculated b the Distributed Information Centres, to scientists including 150 Libraries.

(d) to (f) Over 6,000 scientists from all parts of the country have utilised the services of the Biotechnology Information System (BTIS). The Network would be expanded by setting up new centres/sub-centres in other regions during the 8th Plan Period based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee Already several requests for information have been received from centres where the Network facilities are not available. The services are rendered to bonafide scientists from Universities/Research Institutions and Industry without charging any fee.

Statement

State-wise Expenditure on BTIS Programme

(Rs. in lakhs)

State/U.T.	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90	1990-91	Total
Andhra Pradesh . .	25.00	15.77	9.85	19.40	14.50	84.52
Assam	..	..	5.00	0.32	1.17	6.49
Chandigarh . . .	25.00	..	..	7.50	3.50	36.00
Delhi	50.00	14.99	34.50	115.15	70.07	284.71
Goa	..	..	5.00	0.32	2.95	8.27
Gujarat	..	..	5.00	0.32	..	5.32

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Haryana . . .	..	..	5.00	0.32	..	5.32
Karnataka . . .	25.00	..	16.08	91.10	..	132.18
Maharashtra . . .	25.00	14.75	25.12	18.11	26.15	109.13
Orissa	..	..	..	5.40	..	5.40
Tamil Nadu . . .	25.00	10.90	27.68	22.17	19.54	105.29
Uttar Pradesh . . .	..	..	20.00	1.32	5.17	26.49
West Bengal . . .	25.00	4.00	2.50	14.81	13.10	59.41
TOTAL . . .	200.00	60.41	155.73	296.24	156.15	868.53

स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकी का विकास

2234. सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :

श्री रणजीत सिंह :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 9 नवम्बर, 1991 के दैनिक "दि हिन्दू" में इंडियन साइन्स स्लाइडिंग डाउन हिल वार्नस डा० राव" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो समाचार-पत्र में प्रकाशित डा० राव के इस वक्तव्य पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है कि भारत जैसे देश का आर्थिक विकास स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकी के विकास के द्वारा ही संभव है ?

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती म रिग्रेट आल्वा) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) हम सहमत हैं कि भारत जैसे देश के आर्थिक विकास के लिए स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकी का विकास विशेषकर इस देश की अनुपम समस्याओं से निपटने के के लिए आवश्यक है ।

Number of Qualified youths in Arunachal Pradesh

2235. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of graduates, Engineering graduates, diploma engineers, ITI certificate holders and other qualified unemployed youths in Arunachal Pradesh at *present; and*

(b) what are the schemts for providing employment to these youths?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI FABAN SING GHATOWAR): (a) Available information relating to number of job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, who were on the live register of employment exchange Naharlagun